





Those of our readers who have perused the entertaining "Arabian Nights" will remember the story of the fifth voyage of Sinbad the Sailor, who, having been cast ashore upon a fertile island, was solicited by a disconsolate-looking old man to transport him on his shoulders across a small streamlet. Good, easy Sinbad complied with the request, but when he had carried the old man to the other side, he refused to dismount, and twisting his legs around his benefactor's neck squeezed his throat and compelled him to carry him for many days whithersoever he liked. The story continues that Sinbad made some wine from the juice of the wild grapes, induced the old man to imbibe thereof, and when he was reduced to a state of mellowiness by the generous draught, untwisted his legs and bent out his brains with a stone and escaped. The sailor was afterwards told that his late persecutor was called the "Old Man of the Sea," and that all who had ever carried him had perished, excepting himself. We congratulate Governor Seymour upon having at length shaken off his Old Man of the Sea, who, in the form of an inexperienced youth from the Colonial Office, upon the prestige of His Excellency's name, has overriden the best interests of the country and all but ruined his benefactor. It is hoped that the incubus has been got rid of forever, and that if he was not reduced to a state of mellowiness before his departure, he will at least have his official head knocked from his shoulders by a well-directed blow from a official despatch to the Colonial Office. Governor Seymour has now a grand chance to achieve greatness. His reputation is in his own hands. The "Old Man" whom he has just silenced has been the country's evil genius for years; but by an impartial and unprejudiced administration of affairs, and with economical management, the financial affairs of the Colony can be placed, before the expiration of His Excellency's term, in a comparatively prosperous condition. His Excellency we believe to be a thoroughly honest, well-meaning official; he can afford to be independent, and we have therefore little fear that he will follow the devious snake-like course of the man whose blunders and prejudices and mean, despicable line of policy have contributed so much to dishearten our people and render the very name of British Colony a byword on the Pacific Coast. What is wanted most of all is thorough reform and retrenchment in the conduct of public affairs. The Colony ought to be and must be governed for \$10,000 per annum, which added to the amount (\$212,000) required to meet debentures falling due and to pay the interest on the loan, would bring the entire expenditure of Government down to, say, \$262,000. This sum should be ample for all the requirements of the public service, were it properly applied. To continue in the future the policy of the past would be simple madness or downright wickedness. Cannot Governor Seymour see from the returns of revenue for the past six months of the current year the probable returns for the next six months? Is he not aware that where the Colony owed \$1,200,000 at the end of '86, it will owe at least \$1,500,000 at the close of '87, and how does he propose to meet the deficiency? By increasing the Customs duties? He would destroy our foreign trade and reduce the revenue from that service at least one-third, besides holding out inducements for smuggling and increasing the cost of collection. By a revival of the real estate tax? He would have half the realty in the country on his hands for unpaid taxes. By an increase of the trades' licences? He would lessen the number of traders in proportion as he raised the tax. By a special tax on stocks of merchandise? It would be unconstitutional. The miners, who pay a generous share towards the revenue, are now taxed heavily; if their burthens were increased they would throw down the shovel and the hoe and leave the hills to themselves; and as for the Italian banditti style of collecting a gold export duty, it is not to be entertained for a moment with the memory of the former disastrous attempt to raise a revenue by that means still disagreeably fresh in our minds. Will he appeal to the Home Government for relief? When he asks for bread they will give him a stone. None of those expedients would answer. If adopted they would inevitably result in disappointment. What course, then, can His Excellency adopt to insure the payment of current expenses? We answer, simply,

his Government save in immediate and thorough retrenchment—a speedy and radical change in every department, and the amalgamation of all the offices under one head. The machinery now in use is too cumbersome and expensive. We have put the engines of the Great Eastern into the Leviathan, and are trying to make the hull fit the engines, instead of altering the engines to suit the hull. We are attempting to do too much with a diminished revenue, and the country will be in the Bankruptcy Court before the year is over if Governor Seymour fails to adopt our suggestions or take into his confidence a Secretary of ability, experience and honesty in place of the selfish and impractical tyro in politics who, because he knew next to nothing, considered that he was master of all political lore. It was a blessed day for Governor Seymour when he imitated the example of Sinbad the Sailor and shook the wicked "Old Man" off; and it will be a thrice blessed day for His Excellency, and a glorious one for the Colony, when he consents to bring the expenses of Government down to a figure within the ability of the people to pay. We have ever given Governor Seymour credit for an honest desire to serve the country; but we have always believed that he was too much beneath the baneful influence of his late incubus to insure success to his Administration. Perhaps His Excellency was not to blame for this—perhaps his hands were tied at the Colonial Office, and he was compelled to keep a disreputable servant in his employ; but there is no such necessity now. The load has at last been dropped. The people—the taxpayers—the men who cheerfully subscribe from their substance to the support of this Government—are waiting anxiously to see what policy Governor Seymour means to pursue; whether he intends to govern the country in an enlightened, liberal and economical manner, or whether he designs to continue the wretched, illiberal and expensive system that obtained under the management of the "Old Man of the Sea."

CHINESE COMMERCE.—The returns of the trade of the Chinese ports open to foreign flags show that the total amount of the trade of China carried on under foreign flags amounted in the year 1885 to the estimated value of 237,597,922 taels, equal to very nearly a third of that number of pounds sterling. This is an increase of about 28,000,000 taels over the previous year. It includes the amount of the whole import and export trade, and the amount of the imported and exported treasure, less the amount of the re-exports. At the port of Shanghai, which is partly a depot for other ports, the import and export of treasure could not be correctly ascertained, and is not included in the above amounts. The total estimated value of the imports, foreign and native cargo trade, amounted in 1885 to 169,950,334 taels, an increase of 27,000,000 taels over the preceding year. The exports of 1885 were as follows: To Great Britain and her possessions, 50,161,697 taels; to Japan, 270,743 taels; United States, 5,864,823 taels; sundry countries, 3,757,834 taels; to other open Chinese ports, 44,110,354 taels; making a total of 104,165,431 taels, in addition to treasure exported of the value of 29,052,096 taels—an increase in the grand total of nearly 12,000,000 taels over the previous year. The revenue of all kinds received by the Chinese Government on foreign trade at the trade ports has in the five years amounted to about 32,560,000 taels. The Inspector General observes that foreign merchants come to China to trade because it pays them to do so, and that these figures show that the Chinese—merchants, people and government—are not without their share in the advantages springing from commercial intercourse. The revenue amounted to 2,531,753 taels in the year 1885, and to 2,635,917 taels in the year ending the 31st March 1886; 2,529,466 taels in the third year 1882-83; 2,728,747 taels in the fourth year 1883-84; 2,793,587 taels in the fifth year, 1884-85, so that the annual revenue is now nearer to 23,000,000 than to 22,000,000.

AN ANCIENT NEGRESS ON THE STUMP.—There has been a big "Woman's Rights" Convention at New York, and among the speakers was Sojourner Truth, a negress 80 years of age. Her fanciful name is self bestowed. She was for 40 years a slave. She made her appearance on the platform sitting in the ordinary garb of a Quakeress, and, as she went down she was a target for the arrows of the press. Her address was delivered in the negro dialect, as it is spoken in the United States, and was full of that metaphor in which the American negro delights. This will serve as a specimen: "I've been peeling to the public this many years a gittin' slavery 'bused, but pears like de work ain't nary a half done. You got a work yet afore you. De colud man, he got his rights; but nobody makes fuss de de colud woman's rights. Well, chile, Ise old enogh to be de madder of all pears. Ise been yere 80 yere; but deen's work to do, and Ise got to tarry. I want women—colud women as well as wite women—on de jury. After continuing her remarks in this strain Sojourner favored the audience with a song—one of her own composition. As she sang she snugged her fingers like castanets, and bent time bodily with one foot, swaying herself backward and forward in true plantation style.

LADY DOCTORS.—The report of the Ladies' Medical College for the two years ended with the present month states that the third annual session of the Society's teaching operations has closed with results that are both satisfactory and promising. Fifty ladies have entered as students, of whom 12 entered during the first session, 9 during the second, and 29 during the third. Of these ladies 10 were widowed, 15 married and 25 single. Some were amateur students, who attended the lectures merely as a means of personal education, 9 were midwives previously in practice, 1 the catron of a maternity hospital, 10 were sisters, daughters or wives of medical men, one was prepared to go to Delhi as missionary in connection with the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, a considerable number were or would have been governesses, and some were of no occupation. The committee say that many other gentlemen would gladly have availed themselves of the College of nearly all their needs of personal education. The report says that not only has the sum of £451 14s. in fees been cheerfully paid, but a further sum of £282 9s. has been voluntarily subscribed to the 80th anniversary of the college.

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M. Archer, the French *officier de paix* who accompanied the Prince of Wales in his frequent visits to the Exhibition, and prevented his Royal Highness from being at any time inconveniently approached by the crowd, has been presented by the Prince with a very handsome gold pin, having the Prince's arms beautifully set in diamonds.

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PORTLAND, July 19.—The Fideliter sailed at 8 p. m. yesterday. The Alfred Crosby arrived this morning.

RAILWAY TRAVELLING IN AMERICA.

Railroad travel over long routes has come to be done almost wholly without stopping. Nobody going to Chicago or St. Louis thinks of stopping to rest over night—nor, as a general thing, do through trains stop for meals. This has led necessarily to the provision of cars specially adapted to the service, and these cars are in general use, but on all the Eastern roads they continue to be the close, dirty, inconvenient cabs they were at the beginning. On the Western roads they have improved constantly and rapidly, and are furnished every year with fresh conveniences. There are, however, they are in the hands of private individuals—the railroad companies having nothing to do with them, beyond allowing them to be run over their roads, thus saving them the necessity of providing just so much rolling stock. A Mr. Pullman, of Chicago, is the "king" of the sleeping cars at the West, running his cars over no less than sixteen separate lines of road. He makes them better and better every year—larger and more roomy, with better beds and more elegant furniture, and has succeeded in securing for them a continuous route from this city to the extreme West, over some of the Pennsylvania lines. He has lately made another advance in their construction. He is now building cars with separate apartments for family travel—each apartment furnished with arm-chairs, tables, sofas, mirrors, beds, &c., and by means of a compact kitchen attached to each car, each person served with meals at a la carte, at whatever hours may best suit his or her convenience. A week ago he brought one of these cars to Albany and ran it through, by special train, direct to Omaha, for the United States Commissioners appointed to inspect and accept that part of the Pacific Railroad already done, and an accompanying party of invited guests. Several of these cars are already in use on the Western roads. They are exceedingly comfortable and deprive long journeys of nearly all their tedium and discomfort. They add of necessity to the cost of travel, but a very large portion of our people are always ready to pay for whatever additional comforts payment will secure.

THE PRINCE OF WALES IN PARIS. The Paris correspondent of the Daily News gives the following account of the grand ball at the British Embassy: Although a temporary room, nearly as large as all the rest of the rooms put together, had been built expressly for this ball, the crowd was greater than anybody of this generation remembers in the same place. The improvised saloon of which I speak comprised the large square place in the garden between the wings of the Embassy Palace in which are the new ball-room and the supper room. This saloon was covered throughout with a rich Aubusson carpet; there was a fountain in the center; seats were tastefully arranged among flower beds and arbours, and the light was brilliant and most artistically managed. At the far end next the garden was the buffet, and behind this the high wall was covered from the ground to the roof with fresh flowers. Amidst these flowers, high up above the right and left of the buffet appeared handsome transparencies representing the Prince of Wales' feathers, with the motto *Dieu et mon droit*. The number of cards of invitation issued is said to have been 2,500. The ball was opened by a quadrille (the *quadrille d'honneur*), in which the Prince of Wales danced with the Empress of the French, having for *vis-a-vis* the Duke of Edinburgh and the Queen of the Belgians. The side couples were Prince Joachim Murat and the Princess Eugenie of Leuchtenberg, and Lord Royston and the Duchess of Manchester. You will read in the France that the Emperor opened the ball with the Queen of the Belgians, having the King of the Belgians and the Empress for their *vis-a-vis*. But this is a mistake; neither the Emperor nor the King of the Belgians danced during the whole evening. Prince Napoleon came late and stayed but for a very short time. He did not join the Imperial and Royal party at the supper table. Both the Queen of Portugal and the Princess Clotilde sent excuses. The names of their absence were very homely and simple one; the Princess Clotilde had a toothache, and her Royal sister, Queen Pia, said the preferred keeping her company, passing a quiet evening and talking about their babies, to going out. At this ball there was a great sprinkling of knee breeches and tights. They were far from being in a majority, but formed a very respectable minority. Some wore at the knee loose black ribbons, Lord Royston and on a blue coat with velvet collar and gilt buttons, such as was the fashion in London a quarter of a century ago. The lordship, who is on intimate terms with the Prince of Wales, may, perhaps, bring this coat into fashion again; but on Friday night he was alone in his glory. The Prince of Wales wore a black coat and white waistcoat, across which was the broad red grand cordon of the Legion of Honour, lighted, and the garter on the knee. The Duke of Edinburgh was dressed in precisely the same way, with the exception that he wore the blue ribbon of the garter across his white waistcoat. They both had a rosebud in a buttonhole. Both the Princes looked extremely well, entered into the amusements of the evening with all the spirit of their age, and made themselves most agreeable to all who had the privilege of speaking with them. I need not enter into many details as to the order in which the Imperial and Royal personages sat at supper, which lasted a long time; boards ranged round were not tasted merely, but done justice to in a serious and business-like way. The Empress held a particularly animated conversation with the Prince of Wales, who seemed to amuse her greatly. When the Highland pipe went round the table with the bagpipes the prince directed her Majesty's attention to some ladies who were stopping their ears, and laughed good humoredly at their want of appreciation of Highland music. I was greatly struck by the extraordinary resemblance of the King of the Belgians to the portraits of Francis I. I see that the *Liberte* of this evening makes the same remark. While the Imperial and Royal party was at table the general company took their places at other tables in the same room. Ultimately there was a sit-down supper for everybody, with plenty of attendance, and all the evening long there was abundance of supplemental refreshment at the buffet. At about 2 o'clock the cotillon began. It was conducted by the Mar







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